

CLAIMS

1. A method for reducing the sludge formed during the biological treatment of an aqueous effluent, said
5 treatment comprising at least one step during which the effluent is contacted with microorganisms in an aeration tank, characterized in that an ozone-containing gas comprising at least 2.5 mg of ozone per liter of gas is injected into the aeration tank by
10 means of an apparatus producing an emulsion of ozone-containing gas in the effluent.
2. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the ozone-containing gas contains no more than 300 mg of ozone per liter of gas.
- 15 3. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the apparatus producing an emulsion of ozone-containing gas in the effluent consists of a venturi supplied by a pump and comprising a means for injecting gas into the throat of the
20 venturi.
4. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the apparatus producing an emulsion of ozone-containing gas in the effluent consists of a turbine and means for injecting gas into
25 the turbine.
5. The method as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the apparatus producing an emulsion of ozone-containing gas in the effluent consists of a self-suction turbine and a propeller, said self-suction
30 turbine and said propeller being mounted on the same hollow drive shaft, and said hollow shaft supplying ozone-containing gas to the turbine.